

an end of each of said blades on the surface being located on an extension of the surface of a corresponding diametrical rib and extending inclinely toward a back side of said gear.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

(Amended) The molded gear according to claim 2, wherein another end of each of said blades extends up to a vicinity of a diametrical rib that is located next to said diametrical rib.

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 1, 2 and 6. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the claims are supported by the application as originally filed and do not contain any new matter. In addition, Applicant would like to respond to the Examiner's comments in the Final Office Action dated November 12, 2002 and such a response will be made with reference to amended claims.

The Examiner has stated that the proposed drawing correction and/or proposed substitute sheets of drawings filed on September 3, 2002 have been approved and then states that a proper drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in order to reply to the Office Action to avoid abandonment of the application and correction to the drawings will not be held in abeyance. Applicant has previously submitted the corrections to the drawings which were required by the Office Action dated June 3, 2002 and such an amendment to the drawings have been approved by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant does not have to submit any other drawing changes.

The Examiner has rejected claims 6 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In view of the amendments to claim 6, Applicant respectfully submits that it now complies with 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Mabuchi et al. Applicant would like to point out that as to Fig. 2 of Mabuchi et al., Applicant respectfully submits that Mabuchi et al. merely discloses that a fan portion 8' is arranged in the opening 12" and does not show or describe a structure wherein "the end of each of the blades on the surface side is located on an extension of the surface of a corresponding diametrical rib and extends inclinely toward the back side" as is claimed by Applicant's claims 1 and 2. Instead, Applicant respectfully submits that in Mabuchi et al., the blades extend obliquely from the back

side of rib-like portion. Still further, Applicant respectfully submits that by the arrangement of the blades in Applicant's invention is provided a certain advantage. In particular, by providing the blades on the diametrical ribs, the flow of the molten material is smooth during molding and it is possible to avoid molding failures when manufacturing the molded gears by injection molding. Applicant respectfully submits that Mabuchi et al. does not show, suggest or teach such an advantage.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Mabuchi et al. does not show each and every element of Applicant's invention as claimed by claims 1-6 and claims 1-6 are not anticipated by Mabuchi et al.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Sakamaki in view of Mabuchi et al.

In reply thereto, Applicant would like to incorporate by reference his comments above concerning Applicant's invention and Mabuchi et al. In addition, Applicant's review of Sakamaki indicates that it may have a plastic gear having a web, radially extending ribs and a rim, Sakamaki does not show blades provided on the gear and particularly blades which would produce an air flow.

In view of the above, therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Sakamaki and Mabuchi et al. would not be Applicant's invention and claims 1-6 are not obvious thereover.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In view of the above, therefore, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered as part of this RCE, favorably considered and the case passed to issue.

Please charge any additional costs incurred by or in order to implement this Amendment or required by any requests for extensions of time to KODA & ANDROLIA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 11-1445.

Respectfully submitted,

KODA & ANDROLIA

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William L. Androlia

Name

Signature

2/12/2003
Date

Application No. 09/865,382

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (amended) has been amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A molded gear made with a plurality of diametrical ribs extending radially, a web, and a plurality of teeth formed around an outer periphery thereof by cooling and solidifying a molten material in a mold, comprising
a plurality of holes defined circumferentially in a portion radially inner than said teeth to extend through said radially inner portion from a surface side to a back side, and
blades formed at side edges of said holes, an end of each of said blades on the surface side being located on an extension of a surface of a corresponding diametrical rib [or said web] and extending inclinely toward the back side.

Claim 2 (amended) has been amended as follows:

2. (Twice Amended) A molded gear made with a plurality of diametrical ribs extending radially, a web, a rim, and a plurality of teeth formed around an outer periphery of a rim by cooling and solidifying a molten material in a mold, comprising
a plurality of blades which produce an axial air flow when said gear is rotated and are formed at distances circumferentially on an inner peripheral surface of the rim, and
an end of each of said blades on the surface being located on an extension of the surface of a corresponding diametrical rib [or said web] and extending inclinely toward a back side of said gear.

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6. (Amended) The molded gear according to claim [1] 2, wherein another end of each of said blades extends up to a vicinity of a diametrical rib that is located next to said diametrical rib.